

ARTICLE I - Club Name

The name of the club shall be the SARASOTA R/C SQUADRON, INC. and under the acronym "SRQ".

ARTICLE II - Purpose and Philosophy

- A. Its purpose shall be to bring together all persons interested in promoting and fostering a common interest in the building and flying of all radio-controlled model aircraft and the securing and maintaining of flying sites.*
- B. All regular and/or special undertakings and activities of SRQ shall conform to the policies of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and the regulations of that organization governing model aircraft contests.*

ARTICLE III - SRQ To Be Chartered

Each year SRQ shall secure and renew a charter from the AMA.

ARTICLE IV – Membership

A. The following types of SRQ memberships are:

- 1. Regular memberships with flying and voting rights.*
- 2. Junior memberships, under the age of 18 with flying and voting rights at reduced initiation fee and membership dues.*
- 3. Family membership with flying and voting rights for each family member at reduced membership dues.*
- 4. Associate memberships with neither flying nor voting rights. No AMA membership is required.*
- 5. Honorary members with flying and voting rights without initiation fee or membership dues.*

Such members will be elected by a majority vote by the members present at a monthly membership meeting, following a recommendation by the Board for such a vote. The membership may revoke a lifetime or honorary membership following established rules for termination of a membership.

- 6. Temporary members (monthly) at a Board-determined monthly rate. Temporary memberships are for flying privileges only. These memberships carry no voting rights. The maximum length of temporary membership is sixty (60) days.**
- B. Any person desiring to become a Member of SRQ shall submit a written application to the Treasurer or any current board member together with the current initiation fee and the yearly dues then in effect. The term of Membership shall commence upon acceptance of such application and dues and shall terminate upon expiration of the applicable dues period, unless renewed. All renewing members shall present their renewed AMA card to the SRQ treasurer. Flyers requiring an AMA waiver, such as a turbine engine waiver, shall also provide a copy of the waiver to the treasurer upon application for membership and renewal. Flyers operating on an FCC amateur radio band shall submit a copy of their FCC license to the treasurer upon application for membership or renewal.**
- C. Membership in SRQ is available to all individuals satisfying the following requirements:**

 - 1. For members with flying privileges, be a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). Members over 19 as of July 1 shall maintain an OPEN membership. Members under 19 as of July 1 shall maintain a YOUTH membership. A PARK PILOT PROGRAM membership is not enough to join SRQ.**
 - 2. Agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of the AMA and SRQ.**
 - 3. Pay an initiation fee and membership dues for the current period.**
- D. Termination of membership in SRQ may be accomplished in the following ways:**

 - 1. Failure to timely pay dues.**
 - 2. Expulsion due to improper conduct and/or failure to abide by the Rules and Regulations of SRQ. This forced resignation, as recommended by the Board of directors, shall be effected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast by members in good standing present at a general membership meeting.**
 - 3. Failure to maintain current AMA membership.**
- E. Reinstatement of terminated members may be accomplished in the following ways:**

1. *Members who leave the club in good standing may be reinstated if they produce a valid AMA registration, pay the requisite dues and outstanding assessments (if any).*
2. *Persons Expelled from the membership in accordance with paragraph D.2. above will not be considered for reinstatement unless twelve (12) months have elapsed AND then not without a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast by members in good standing present at a general membership meeting. If a motion to reinstate a terminated person fails to achieve a two-thirds (2/3) majority approval of the membership, that person shall be ineligible to re-apply for reinstatement for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the failed vote.*

ARTICLE V - Club Officers and Board of Directors

- A. *Officers to be elected by the membership shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition to these elected officers, the President elect shall appoint a Safety Officer for each flying site used by SRQ. The Safety Officer will approve club instructors and other members to assist, and report to the safety officer, who reports to the Board.*
- B. *The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three members of SRQ elected at large. Terms are for two years: The President, Secretary and two board members at large (hereto referred to as A&B) will be elected on even years. VP, Treasurer and one board member at large (hereto referred to as C) will be elected on odd years.*
- C. *An Election Committee consisting of at least three (3) SRQ members shall be appointed during the general membership meeting in August of each year. The Election Committee shall then select board and officer nominations from current SRQ/AMA members in adequate time for all candidates' names to appear in the SRQ newsletter before the elections, preferably by the October general membership meeting.*
- D. *Officers and board members shall be elected at the November meeting with due notice of this meeting having been given to the membership. A plurality vote of the members in attendance at this meeting shall be required to be elected. Election results showing the number of votes for each candidate shall be posted on the Members Only section of the SRQ website immediately following the election. No officer or director shall hold the same office or director's position more than two (2) consecutive terms. The*

Treasurer is allowed to serve multiple consecutive terms unless the position is challenged. The financial records of the club should be reviewed every two (2) years by a qualified person chosen by the Board.

- E. Newly elected directors and officers shall assume their duties on January 1 of the year following their election. An installation ceremony of the new officers and board members shall be held at the December meeting.*
- F. Newly elected officers and board members shall hold a joint meeting with the previously elected officers and board members in December to become familiar with their duties.*
- G. Duly elected officers and board members may only be removed from office by a majority vote of the board at a special meeting held for that purpose only, with a quorum being present. The action of the board must be confirmed by a majority vote of the members present at the next regularly scheduled membership meeting. Notification of the membership of the impending vote shall be via the Members Only section of the club website and via email to the general membership. No name will be published. The affected member shall be notified by registered letter of the date and time of all meetings scheduled to remove him from office.*
- H. The Board of Directors shall appoint a Membership Committee. The purpose of this committee is to maintain a single database that contains pertinent membership information. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for periodically publishing a club roster, publishing membership badges, and coordinating with the Orientation and Training Chairman to assure that no new member receives their flying privileges without proof of qualification.*

ARTICLE VI - Duties of Officers

- A. The President shall:
 - 1. Preside at all board and general meetings.*
 - 2. Act as spokesman for SRQ.*
 - 3. Appoint chairpersons of all committee's subject to board approval.*
 - 4. As Chairman of the Board, assure a quorum of five (5) voting members of the board for any requisite vote and be responsible for proxies.**

5. *Authorize emergency or special expenditures not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) in any one instance.*
6. *Replace officers and board members who are unable to fulfil their required duties due to excessive absences, reasons of health and so on. Replacements will finish out the unexpired term of the replaced board member. Replacements must be approved by the board.*
7. *Call appropriate committees as needed to carry out necessary business. Such group members need not be members of the Board.*
8. *Cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie.*
9. *Present proxies at any general membership meeting.*

B. The Vice President shall:

1. *Act for the President when he is unable to serve due to resignation, removal, death, or disability. If the Vice President is unable or unwilling to serve, then the line of succession will be Treasurer, Secretary then longest serving Board member.*
2. *Coordinate the programs for the monthly membership meetings.*

C. The Secretary shall:

1. *Keep the minutes of all Board of Directors and general meetings of SRQ.*
2. *Carry out the official correspondence of SRQ.*
3. *Maintain a file of SRQ correspondence, insurance records, corporate charter and so on.*
4. *File and maintain all requisite reports pertinent to retaining charter membership in the AMA.*
5. *Minutes from any Board of Directors meetings should be posted in a timely manor to the Members Only section of the SRQ website*

D. The Treasurer shall:

1. *Collect all monies due, disburse same and keep accurate records of all transactions.*
2. *Present a report of all transactions to board meetings and be prepared, as required, at general membership meetings. Present an annual financial statement to the membership within sixty (60) days next following the beginning of each calendar year.*
3. *Keep all SRQ funds in a checking and/or savings account as approved by the board.*

ARTICLE VII – Meetings

- A. The general membership shall meet once a month as determined by the Board based upon the availability and time of a meeting location. The date, place and time of all general membership meetings are to be posted on the Calendar portion of the SRQ website. The minutes of the previous general membership meeting shall be read or published for approval or revision. The President or Vice President shall give a brief report of board activities. The Treasurer shall provide a written report of all income expenditures and all current SRQ account balances as appropriate.*
- B. The Board of Directors shall meet once a month at a regularly scheduled time. It shall be the responsibility of the board members to keep abreast of the opinions and ideas of the General Membership in order that SRQ activities and direction are in the best interests of SRQ and its members. Additional board meetings may be called as deemed necessary by the President. Additional or special Board meetings are to be announced on the SRQ calendar portion of the website in the same way as are regularly scheduled Board and general membership meetings. Minutes from any Board or general membership meetings are to be published for review by the members on the Members Only section of the SRQ website*
- C. Emergency membership meetings may be conducted via email.*
- D. The conduct of these meetings shall be in accordance with regular parliamentary procedure per "Roberts' Rules of Order".*

ARTICLE VIII - Flying Sites

Flying sites designated by SRQ will be approved by the membership and insured by the AMA.

ARTICLE IX - Flying Site Regulations

- A. Each SRQ member should know obtaining and keeping of flying sites is a prime purpose of this club. To accomplish this, in addition to the current AMA model aviation safety code, SRQ field guidelines will be provided. It is also the intent of the AMA safety code and field guidelines to provide safety not only for the spectators, but for the members as well.*
- B. The Safety Officer shall enforce these Rules and Regulations and is charged with the obligation of*

bringing any infractions of these rules and regulations to the attention of the Board of Directors.

- C. Because the Rules and Regulations change from time to time, as flying sites change, these Rules and Regulations covering flying sites, safety and general conditions shall be provided separately and each member shall be responsible for obtaining the latest copy.*
- D. A copy of the Rules and Regulations shall be posted on the Members Only section of the SRQ website and in a prominent place at each flying site.*
- E. Guest pilots shall be members of AMA. A guest pilot may fly three calendar days per year.*

ARTICLE X- Amendments to the Bylaws

The General Membership shall be notified in advance, in writing (via the Members Only section of the SRQ website and special notice via email to the general membership) that amendments will be considered at the next General Meeting. Proposed changes to the By-laws shall then be published in their entirety on the Members Only section of the SRQ website. Voting on the proposed amendment(s) shall occur no less than 30 days from publication of proposed amendments at a membership meeting. Proposed amendments to the By-Laws of SRQ may be made by the Board or any Member in good standing. Amendments to the Bylaws will require a two-thirds vote of SRQ Members in good standing present at the meeting at which the vote is taken.

ARTICLE XI – Voting

- A. All voting on issues other than elections at general membership meetings shall be by show of hands unless stated otherwise in the bylaws for specific types of decisions.*
- B. Election of officers and directors shall be conducted by secret ballot.*
- C. An Election Committee selected by the President consisting of three or more members NOT currently running for an elected position shall manage vote collection, verification and tally of results.*
- D. A member who is unable to attend a meeting where an issue or election is to be voted upon by written ballot may vote by absentee ballot. The absentee ballot must be in writing. The absentee ballot must be signed and delivered to SRQ via the U.S. Mail prior to election day. Walk-in votes or those delivered by hand will not be accepted.*

ARTICLE XII – Financial

- A. The Treasurer shall make only those expenditures of SRQ funds authorized by the membership in the current budget. Once per year, the Board of Directors is authorized to approve unbudgeted expenditures of up to \$1,500.00. All other new proposed expenditures of above \$750.00 must be approved by a majority of SRQ members present at a General Membership Meeting. Additional emergency expenditures are allowable if approved by the Board.*
- B. The Treasurer shall set aside forty (40) percent of all SRQ membership dues collected each year for a capital improvement reserve fund. Expenditures from this capital improvement reserve fund shall only be made for that purpose and only after the general membership has been notified in advance, in writing (via the SRQ newsletter or special notice) that such an expenditure will be considered at a general meeting. Approval for any such expenditure will then require a two-thirds vote of SRQ members in good standing present at the meeting at which the vote is taken. Members who wish to make a donation to the club may request that their donation go into the general operating reserve, or into the capital improvement reserve fund.*

ARTICLE XIII - Dues and Fees

- A. The annual membership dues and initiation fees shall be presented by the board to the membership in conjunction with a proposed budget for the upcoming year submitted for approval by a majority vote of the members in good standing present at the September general membership meeting. The general membership shall be notified in writing that the dues and budget are being presented at this meeting for membership consideration. A change in dues shall become effective on the first day of October next following any approved change. Dues for the upcoming year may only be paid from 1 October through 31 December.*
- B. No special assessments shall be levied except upon the recommendation of the Board and approved by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Members in good standing present at a general membership meeting. Assessments not paid by the due date will result in the loss of flying privileges until the assessment is paid. Rejoining the club after a special assessment has been levied may be subject to the outstanding assessment.*
- C. Any Member delinquent in paying next year's dues by December 31st of the current year shall forfeit all*

rights and privileges of membership and will be dropped from SRQ in good standing until all dues and fees are paid.

- D. Annual dues must be paid before 31 December for the upcoming year. A late fee (20%) will be assessed for any dues received after that date. New membership fees may be applicable if renewal is delayed beyond 31 January.**

ARTICLE XIV – Insurance

- A. The Board of Directors shall maintain liability and property coverage on the buildings and contents. Contents coverage shall be based on an annual inventory of the existing records. The records and insurance policies will be kept by the Secretary. SRQ shall purchase and maintain a Directors and Officers Liability policies with a limit of \$1,000,000 or more. The premiums shall be paid by SRQ.**

ARTICLE XV Dissolution

- A. The corporation may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the total membership.**
- B. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Treasurer shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation in any of the following ways:**
- 1. Net assets after payments of all debts and financial obligations may be donated to AMA.**
 - 2. Donations to charitable organizations recommended by the Board.**
 - 3. Or other means approved by the Board AND allowed by IRS regulations and/or Florida law.**